PUBLIC NOTICE



Date: August 31, 2021

File Number: NAE-2021-02288 In Reply Refer To: Greg Penta

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EMERGENCY PERMITTING PROCEDURES FOR TROPICAL STORM HENRI

The purpose of this public notice is to advise the public that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), New England District, will initiate the following emergency permitting procedures in response to conditions resulting from storm damage associated with Tropical Storm Henri in the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island, including lands within the boundaries of Native American Indian reservations, and within areas in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with President Biden's Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe emergency declaration. These alternate procedures will be utilized until February 22, 2022.

- 1. In accordance with 33 CFR 325.2(e)(4), an "emergency" is a situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures.
- 2. The storm damage may increase the number of requests for permits under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and/or Section 404 of the Clean Water Act in waters of the U.S. for activities related to this storm event.
- 3. Some permitting may be accomplished through available general permits. For those actions that do not qualify for authorization under the terms and conditions of available general permits or cannot be reasonably processed to alleviate unacceptable hazards mentioned above, the following procedures will be used:
- a. USACE will review emergency permitting requests to determine if there is truly an emergency situation associated with the request.
- b. If the action is determined to be an emergency, USACE will send descriptions of the proposed action to representatives from each of the resource/commenting agencies, including the state agencies responsible for Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone Management Consistency, if required, and the appropriate Tribes for actions in their area of concern.

- c. Federal agencies are assured that their referral prerogatives under Section 404(q) remain in full forces and effect and will be honored.
- d. Resource agency and Tribal comments, as well as State Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and Coastal Management CZMA certifications, will be requested within 12 hours of the notification and, if possible, a permit decision will be made within 24-48 hours of the request.
- e. Requests will be discussed by telephone or email with the agency or Tribal representative, if necessary, and comments will be taken by telephone or email, if agreeable to the agency, and will be immediately documented by notes and followed by emailed written comments to the maximum possible extent.
- 4. If additional information is needed, please contact Greg Penta, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at gregory.r.penta@usace.army.mil or (978) 318-8862.

THIS NOTICE IS <u>NOT</u> AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.

Tammy R. Turley

Chief, Regulatory Division

Tammy R. Turley

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil.